(b) the number of private operators who have come forward to set up budget hotels; and

(c) what are the incentives that are given by Government for encouraging private operators to set up budget hotels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) No proposal of the private sector to set up budget hotels in co-operation with Government is pending in the current financial year.

(c) In order to augment accommodation in budget category of hotels, the Department of Tourism has introduced a scheme 'Incentive to Accommodation Infrastructure' during the 10th Five Year Plan. Under this scheme, capital subsidy is granted to new hotel projects in 1 to 3 star and Heritage Basic category in the country except the four metropolitan cities, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

The incentive is granted in the form of capital grant of 10% of the total principal loan taken from designated financial institutions/Scheduled Banks or upto Rs. 25 lakhs to 1 star hotels, Rs. 50 lakhs to 2 star hotels, Rs. 75 lakhs to 3 star and the Heritage Basic category hotels, whichever is less.

Construction of ropeways in hilly areas

2297. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to encourage the construction of rope ways in the hilly areas of the country in order to minimise the money and time to be spent on the construction of roads there;

(b) if so, the percentage of population using the rope ways constructed in the hilly States; and

(c) the details of the rope ways to be constructed in the hilly States of the country during the present plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism assists the State Governments/UTs for development of Tourist Infrastructure under its schemes of Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/

Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects on the basis of complete project proposals, merit of the proposal, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. Ropeways are encouraged if they are in a tourist destination and fall under the existing guidelines of Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

Schemes for development of tourism in Uttaranchal

2298. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes submitted to the Central Government by the State Government of Uttaranchal for tourism development;

(b) whether all such schemes have been approved;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) The Central financial assistance is provided to the State Govemments/UT Administrations for tourism projects which are received complete in all respect, based on the merit of the proposal, subject to availability of funds, their *inter-se* priority and competing demands from other States. Details of projects sanctioned during the current financial year for Uttaranchal are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Development of Dayara Bugyal under tourist Circuit	536.36	429.08
2.	Development of Pithoragarh Munsiyari-Berinag in Kumaon under destination development	418.60	334.88
3.	Development of Pauri-Khirshu-Lansdowne under destination development	457.97	361.60
4.	Integrated Development of Badrinath Dham Travel Circuit	702.00	561.67